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NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER



Imagery analysis report

Sensitive Materials Storage Facility at Makale, Ethiopia (S)

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SENSITIVE MATERIALS STORAGE FACILITY AT MAKALE, ETHIOPIA (S)

1. (S/D) A storage facility for sensitive materials was identified under construction on the northern edge of Makale in the Tigre Province of Ethiopia on imagery of [REDACTED]. Makale serves as a staging base for Ethiopian offensives against Tigrean insurgents in the area.

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2. (S/D) Makale Storage Facility [REDACTED] figure 1) consists of three storage buildings, two storage buildings/workshops, one probable administration building, two support buildings, and one building and a probable water reservoir under construction (not all annotated on graphic). The entire area will be enclosed by a quadruple security fence. The fence system was in the early stages of construction on [REDACTED] and consists of four parallel rows of post holes surrounding the facility. Additional security is provided by personnel trenching and automatic weapons firing positions.

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3. (S/D) The probable administration building appears to be an existing government building that has been taken over by the Ethiopian military. The building has been present for a number of years and as late as [REDACTED] was the only building in the immediate area. However, on that day a bulldozer was being used for preliminary ground scraping in the area.

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4. (S/D) Other military activity recently observed in the Makale area included the initial operational deployment of HIND helicopters in Ethiopia to Alula Aba Nega Airfield [REDACTED]. Eight HIND A are presently deployed to this airfield, which is approximately 4 nautical miles southeast of the newly identified storage facility. HIND were observed there for the first time on [REDACTED].

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(S) Comments and queries regarding this report are welcome. They may be directed to [REDACTED] Third World Forces Division, Imagery Exploitation Group, NPIC, [REDACTED].

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